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twice a month during the academic year by the President's Office to faculty and staff of Greenfield Community College and Foundation. Please share your news with your GCC colleagues by contacting Chris Harris, editor, in any of the following ways: call 498-2133 (leave message on machine if necessary); fax to 498-2232; e-mail to crharris@javanet.com or, on Pine Mail, harris@cms.1. Please direct your comments and suggestions to Charles Wall.



Campus Voice

January 25, 1999

Lillian Ruiz and Tom Young named to Who's Who

Lillian Ruiz and Tom Young have been named to *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*. Limited to honoring 5% of the nation's college teachers, nomination is by National Dean's List students, who are permitted to name one teacher who made a difference for them.

Lillian Ruiz, Asst. Professor of English, tries to remain open to individual contacts with students. "What I enjoy most about the community college is that classes are small enough to offer opportuni-

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Mathematical beauty is not an oxymoron!

"What people usually think of as math is analogous to thinking of English as nothing but grammar," says Dan

Radin, Professor of Math.

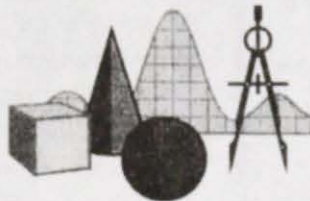
"While grammar is an important tool for writers, it's not writing. Similarly, while algebra and calculus are great tools, they're not the essence of mathematics." The mathematics that gets taught in schools, Radin believes, is largely utilitarian: "It tends to be just tools. And that's a real misrepresentation of the field, because mathematics is exciting!" To convey

the excitement and the beauty of mathematics, Radin is designing an honors course

called "Beauty in Mathematics" to be offered in the Spring of 2000. Funded in part by a

STEMTEC grant, one goal is to inspire students to become more interested in mathematics, and teaching it. "I'm writing this course to let people explore what's really going on in math," says Radin. Students will be using hands-on manipulatives to discover relationships among shapes. "One of

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Self-study team embarks on two-year reaccreditation review

At a pre-holiday luncheon, President Wall launched a two-year intensive review of Greenfield Community College in preparation for the re-accreditation visit by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) in the fall of 2000. Known as the "self-study," the review will be conducted by a fourteen-member steering committee co-chaired by Lawrence A. Dean and David Ram. "The last time we went through this process," notes Wall, "was 1990, when GCC received accreditation for ten years—the association's highest rating."

"Self-study" is both a process and a product," explains David Ram. The "process" involves describing the college in terms of eleven sets of standards identified by the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education. Each description becomes the groundwork for an appraisal of GCC's performance in that area. This appraisal, in turn, enables the self-study committee to make projections for the future.

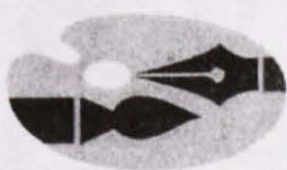
The "product" of this process will be a 100-page report submitted to NEASC in the summer of 2000. NEASC responds

with an on-site visit to the campus in the fall of 2000 to validate the accuracy of the college's report, and make recommendations to the accrediting agency. "Our main intent," says Larry Dean, "is to provide a report that's as accurate and comprehensive and as strong as we can make it—and that's the real motivation behind involving as many people as we can."

"It's not just the perception of balance that we're seeking," says Ram, "but that broad picture you can only get when different constituencies have a

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"By the time [computer users] call for help, they're desperate," notes Lewis. "So dealing with frustrated, anxious, even angry individuals is part of the curriculum."



Northampton Gallery features Keith Hollingworth

The paintings of **Keith Hollingworth** were recently on display at the Pahana Gallery in Northampton. This was Hollingworth's fifth one-man show.

"The Pahana Gallery is an interesting venue," says Hollingworth. The owner, Bob Doyle of Ashfield, has been a lawyer with offices in Northampton for many years. He had long cherished a dream of opening an art gallery, and when he was obliged to find new office space about six years ago, he came upon this second-floor loft space at 144 Main Street in Northampton and made his dream come true, creating an art gallery cum law office. Exhibitions change monthly.

At the present time, notes Hollingworth, there is a show of work by a young woman named **Denise Beaudet**, who is a graduate of Greenfield Community College. "She does figurative art which is very imaginative and lyrical. Her work is very energetic, very exciting!" A group show in December also included the work of **Jesse Ferriter**, who is presently a student at GCC.

When asked to describe his paintings, Hollingworth characterized them this way: "[My paintings] are abstract, they are minimal, they are about place, they are about here and now."

Keith Hollingworth is a part-time art instructor at GCC.

Ever tried to discipline an unruly computer?

You might as well be dealing with an alien species as attempt to understand a computer gone awry. Unfortunately, the technicians who can help you are few and far between. That's why the new A+ Certification Program offered by GCC's Department of Continuing Education is such a boon. "It's a growth career," says **Tom Lewis**, Coordinator for the Center of Business and Industry. "Companies typically start out with one or two PC's in the account-

ing department, and soon every desk in the organization has a computer sitting on it, and they network them—and then you need somebody to maintain that network."

It's a field that's drawing both young people and career changers. "We had an open house recently," says Lewis, "and we talked to everyone from schoolteachers to truck drivers to young people just finishing high school." Certificate holders might work for a company that

has enough equipment to require a technician on staff; they might provide technical support over the telephone; or even open their own technical support service out of their home."

The course was developed by the Computer Technology Industry Association in partnership with Pinnacle Training Corporation and Franklin County Technical School.

Says Lewis, "It's a great opportunity!"

There's beauty in platonic solids!

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my favorite subjects," says Radin, "are the platonic solids." These are the five basic three-dimensional shapes that have the highest amount of symmetry—if you look

at one face, one edge, or one vertex, it looks the same as if you looked at it from any other face, edge, or vertex.

The course will encompass elements of fiction, history, art, theology, ar-

chitecture, and philosophy. Radin envisions students constructing mathematical models, and producing a video—both of which could be taken into elementary school classrooms.

Self-study: Putting ourselves under the microscope

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voice in the process." Besides Dean and Ram, the Self-Study Steering Committee consists of **Beth Erviti, Herbert Hentz, Valerie Knowlton, Colleen Kucinski, Daniel LaRose, Phyllis**

Nahman, Deborah Orre, David Patrick, Frank Peterson, Karen Phillips, Judith Singley, and Donna Wilson.

"The broad goal," says Dean, "is to use the self-study to improve ourselves as an institution,

and that's really the main point of it. We think that there is a cycle of planning and evaluation that's important to an institution and that we need to do that on an ongoing basis. This is part of that cycle."

Two at GCC cited for "making a difference" to students

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ties for individual exchange." Lillian Ruiz assumed new responsibilities as of January 1st as Chairman of the English Department. "I'm very excited about it. This gives me an opportunity to work with the broader picture, and I'll have a greater ability to put forward various issues to

the department."

Tom Young, a working artist, tries to bring "that excitement which I feel in the arts into the classroom. I think I give students a visual language to communicate with. People today grow up in a predominantly visual culture, and the language of the arts is really a language of our time. It helps

students express themselves through image-making. It's exciting to watch students grow and flourish in the medium [of photography], and that's very rewarding." Tom Young curated the Art Bank's current show featuring three western Massachusetts photographers, on exhibit through February 13th.